same reagent, similar etch figures on the same face—it is concluded that, if the law hold actinolite and all amphiboles without a sesquioxide, cannot be isomorphous, with a hornblende; (5) the holohedral character of all amphiboles—it is established for monoclinic and orthorombic species; (6) the demonstration of the orthorombic character of anthophyllite and of gedrite, a doubt of which has been expressed by Hintze and others; (7) a comparison between the amphiboles and pyroxenes as to etching properties—an extraordinary likeness in the figures produced on the pinacoids and on the artificial face of actinolite representing in position the plane (110) of diopside seems to ally the two groups even more closely than has been suspected; (8) the proof that close attention must be given to the *method* of etching with hydrofluoric acid."

The discovery of anomalous etch-pits on a hornblende from Philipstad, Sweden, led to the recognition of a new variety of hornblende characterized by a well-marked zonal structure, an unusually small optical angle, an unusual pleochroism and absorption scheme, and a peculiar chemical composition. For details see Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Vol. XXXIV., Nos. 15 and 16, March, 1899.

J. M. Boutwell,
Recording Secretary.

THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE OF ST. LOUIS.

At the meeting of the Academy of Science of St. Louis of May 1, 1899, nineteen persons present, the Secretary presented by title a paper by Professor F. E. Nipher, on gravitation in gaseous nebulæ.

Dr. Amand Ravold exhibited cultures and microscopic specimens showing the *Micrococcus intercellularis meningitidis* of Weichselbaum, obtained from a case of cerebro-spinal meningitis, and stated that this case afforded an interesting instance of germ infection through the placenta, inasmuch as the cerebro-spinal system of an unborn child of the patient was likewise found to be infected by the germ, from which source, in fact, the specimens exhibited were derived.

Mr. H. von Schrenk presented the general results of a study of certain diseases of the yellow pine, illustrating his remarks by the exhibition of a number of specimens showing the characteristic phenomena of the diseases and the fruiting bodies of the fungi which cause them.

William Trelease,
General Secretary.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

The following papers have been presented during the year: 'Methods of determining the Solar Parallax,' Dr. Frederick L. Chase, of Yale University; 'A Theory of the Nature of Philosophy, Dr. Francis Kennedy; 'The Velocity of Electrical Waves,' Dr. Wm. Duane; 'Graphical Methods of determining Stresses in framed Structures,' Mr. Frederick T. Rubidge; 'Wireless Telegraphy,' Dr. Wm. Duane.

The Society meets the first Friday in each month from November to March. All men of science are invited to attend the meetings.

Francis Ramaley,
Secretary.

Boulder, Colo., April 28, 1899.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE.

THE STORAGE OF PAMPHLETS.

Recent correspondence on this subject in the pages of Science suggests that a description of the method adopted in my private library, as also in that of the Geological Department of the British Museum, may interest some of your readers.

The pamphlet-box finally evolved after some years of experiment is constructed thus: a solid back of wood (*a*), to each side of which is hinged (at *h*) a half-box (*b*). When closed, one half slightly overlaps the other by a rebated edge, so as to exclude dust; they may be fastened by a catch, but this is quite unnecessary in the smaller and lighter makes. When open both sides and back lie flat on the table; or, if space be limited, one side can hang down over the edge of the table or can be kept standing up. In the lighter makes the sides are of pasteboard, and are hinged to the back by a linen hinge (*h*), the outside is all covered with stout binder's cloth and the inside is lined with white glazed paper. In the heavier makes (suitable for large quartos or for a public library) the

sides are of thin wood, similarly hinged to the back, but on the outside the back and the hinges are covered with roan. Attached to the inner side of the tail end of the back is a loop of tape or roan, by which the box can be pulled out from the shelf. The outside measurements of the size adopted in my library for ordinary pamphlets are, height, 11½ inches; depth, 9 inches; thickness, 3¾ inches. The thickness of the material is from ⅛ to ¼ inch according to its position.

The merits of this type of case are extreme simplicity, readiness of access to pamphlets, freedom from dog-earing the corners or folding the wrappers as pamphlets are taken in and out. To refer to a pamphlet one simply places the back of the case on the table, lets fall the two sides on to the table and turns over the pamphlets until the desired one is found. Without

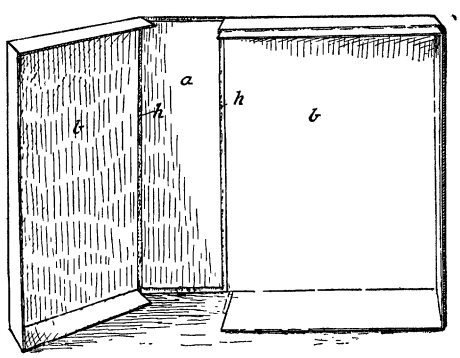

FIG. 1. The pamphlet-case open and seen from the inside.

removing the pamphlet one can turn over the pages, note the passage required and then without further ado close the sides of the pamphlet-box just as one would close a bound book, and replace it on the shelf. The cases are light, dust-proof and durable; and the lighter ones cost me 2s. 9d. (66 cents) apiece when ordered by the half gross.

As for arrangement, each worker will follow the method that suits him best. I sort the pamphlets first into subjects, and within each subject arrange them alphabetically under authors' names; those of each author are placed chronologically. Any number of boxes may go to one subject. Each is labelled on the back with a white paper label on which the subject is stencilled in black, while the letters contained in that particular box are marked in broad soft pencil, easily changed as required (see Fig. 2).

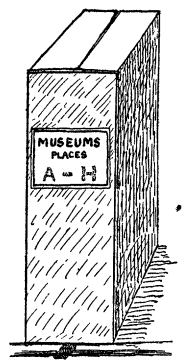

FIG. 2. The pamphlet-case closed as it stands on the shelf.

In this way the boxes devoted to Crinoidea have grown from 1 to 14 and the position of no pamphlet has ever been in doubt.

Of course a card-catalogue is a necessary adjunct to a collection of any size, as it enables one to assign a doubtful pamphlet to any subject, and to find it again by a symbol pencilled on the catalogue slip.

It may be paternal prejudice, but I certainly consider this form of case simpler and more effective than any I have seen or read about. I do not say that it is cheaper.

F. A. BATHER.

THE MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY AT WOOD'S HOLL.

'THE ANNUAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY.'*

THE Twelfth Session of the Marine Biological Laboratory will begin on June 1st, and will continue for four months. This session promises to be the most successful in the history of the Laboratory. While the courses of instruction heretofore offered will be maintained by an exceptionally strong staff, three entirely new courses have been added, these courses in

* Copies of the Announcement may be had on application to the Director, Professor C. O. Whitman, University of Chicago, or to the Assistant Director, Professor Ulric Dahlgren, Princeton University.